

Lesson 10-13

The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

“And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they do not believe in Me; of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.”

John 16:8-12

I. Is the Holy Spirit a part of the Godhead?

YES! The Holy Spirit is God for the following reasons:

A. The Holy Spirit is described as having the same essential and moral attributes as God.

1. The Holy Spirit is eternal (Heb. 9:14).

...how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

2. The Holy Spirit is omnipresent (Ps. 139:7).

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?

3. The Holy Spirit is omnipotent (Luke 1:35; Rom. 15:13).

“The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. Luke 1:35

4. The Holy Spirit is omniscient (I Cor. 2:10-12; John 14:26).

But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. I Corinthians 2:10-12

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

John 14:26

5. The Holy Spirit is love (Rom. 15:30).

Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me...

6. The Holy Spirit is holy (Rom. 1:4). His name is the “Holy” Spirit. Holiness is often associated with the Spirit of God.

...and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.

B. The Holy Spirit does the works of God.

1. He creates (Gen. 1:1-2; Job 33:4; Ps. 104:30). It should be noted that in the Bible the words “breath, wind and spirit” are all the same. They are translated respectively as the context of the passage demands.

The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

Job 33:4

You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; and You renew the face of the earth.

Psalm 104:30

2. He inspires of prophecy and Scripture (II Pet. 1:21; II Sam. 23:2).

...no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. II Peter 1:20-21

The Spirit of the LORD spoke by me, and His word was on my tongue.

II Samuel 23:2

3. He regenerates (John 3:5-8).

Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

4. He convicts of sin (John 16:7-11).

Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. ⁸ And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: ⁹ of sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ of

righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more;¹¹ of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

5. He comforts (John 14:16-18).

And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.¹⁸ I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

7. He sanctifies (II Th. 2:13).

But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth...

8. He bestows divine gifts (I Cor. 12:4-11).

*There are diversities of gifts, but the same **Spirit**.⁵ There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord.⁶ And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.⁷ But the **manifestation of the Spirit** is given to each one for the profit of all:⁸ for to one is given the word of wisdom through the **Spirit**, to another the word of knowledge through the same **Spirit**,⁹ to another faith by the same **Spirit**, to another gifts of healings by the same **Spirit**,¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.¹¹ But one and the same **Spirit** works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.*

8. He begot Christ (Luke 1:35).

And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.

9. He empowers the believer (Acts 1:8).

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

- C. The name of the Holy Spirit is coupled with the Father and the Son (Mt. 28:19; Acts 2:38-39; I Cor. 12:4-6; II Cor. 13:14; I Jn. 5:7-8; Heb. 9:14; Eph. 2:18).

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit... Matthew 28:19

Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.³⁹ For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.” Acts 2:38-39

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen. II Corinthians 13:14

For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. I John 5:7

For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Ephesians 2:18

- E. The Holy Spirit is called God (Acts 5:3-4; II Cor. 3:18, NIV).

But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.” Acts 5:3-4

And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. II Corinthians 3:18, NIV

II. Is the Holy Spirit a person or merely a heavenly influence?

The Holy Spirit is more than a godly influence. The Holy Spirit is a person for the following reasons:

- A. Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as a person (John 14:16-17; 15:26; 16:7-8, 13-15). The personal pronouns are always associated with a person not an “it.”

“But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. John 15:26

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you. John 16:13-15

- B. The Holy Spirit has the three elements of personality.
1. The Holy Spirit has a mind (Rom. 8:27).

Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is...

2. The Holy Spirit has a will (I Cor. 12:11).

But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

3. The Holy Spirit has emotions (Rom. 8:26-27; 15:30; Eph. 4:30).

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Ephesians 4:30

C. The Holy Spirit performs actions that only a person can perform.

1. He speaks (I Tim. 4:1; Rev. 2:7, 11, 17, 29).
2. He searches all things (I Cor. 2:10).
3. He reveals or inspires (II Pet. 1:21).
4. He teaches (John 14:26).
5. He cries (Gal. 4:6).
6. He intercedes (Rom. 8:26).
7. He calls and places men in service (Acts 13:2; 20:28).
8. He leads (Rom. 8:14).
9. He rules (Acts 16:6-7).
10. He creates (Job 33:4).
11. He sanctifies (Rom. 15:16).
12. He helps (Rom. 8:26).
13. He gives gifts (I Cor. 12:7-11).
14. He works miracles (Acts 2:4; 8:39).
15. He bears witness (I John 5:6).
16. He reproves (John 16:8-11).
17. He regenerates (John 3:5-6).
18. He strives with men (Gen. 6:3).
19. He guides into truth (John 16:13).
20. He sends (Is. 48:16).

D. The Holy Spirit has personal feelings ascribed to Him.

He can be:

1. Grieved (Eph. 4:30).
2. Vexed or Rebelled Against (Is. 63:10).
3. Insulted (Heb. 10:29).
4. Lied to (Acts 5:3).
5. Blasphemed (Mt. 12:31-32).
6. Resisted (Acts 7:51).

7. Put to the Test (Acts 5:9).
8. Quenched (I Th. 5:19).
9. Provoked (Ps. 106:33).
10. Pleased (Acts 15:28).

III. How important is the Holy Spirit in our lives?

In many ways the Holy Spirit should be the closest relationship that we have.

- A. The Holy Spirit is the one who draws the unbeliever to God (I Cor. 12:3).

Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.

- B. The Holy Spirit is the administrator of the promises of God (John 16:14-15).

He will bring me glory by revealing to you whatever he receives from me. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine; this is what I mean when I say that the Spirit will reveal to you whatever he receives from me. —NLT

- C. The Holy Spirit is the one who dwells within the spirit of the believer (I Cor. 6:19).

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

- D. The Holy Spirit is the one who empowers the believer for service (Acts 1:8).

- E. The Holy Spirit is the one who anoints our ministry (Acts 10:38; I John 2:27).

...how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

- F. The Holy Spirit is the one who sanctifies us (Rom. 15:16).

...that I might be a minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering of the Gentiles might be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

IV. What are some of the names and titles ascribed to the Holy Spirit?

- A. Names and titles tell us a great deal about a person, his nature and his work.

- B. There are about fifty names and titles given to the Holy Spirit in the Bible and all of

them emphasize some unique aspect of the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit. Some of these include the following:

- The Spirit of God (I Cor. 3:16).
- The Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13) or the Spirit of Holiness (Rom. 1:4).
- The Spirit of the Father (Mt. 10:20).
- The Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead (Rom. 1:4; 8:11; I Pet. 3:18).
- The Power of the Highest (Luke 1:35).
- The Breath of the Almighty (Job 33:4; 32:8).
- The Spirit of Grace (Heb. 10:29).
- The Spirit of Burning (Is. 4:4).
- The Comforter (John 14:16).
- The Spirit of Truth (John 14:17).
- The Spirit of Life (Rom. 8:2).
- The Spirit of Adoption (Rom. 8:15).
- The Spirit of Promise (Eph. 1:13-14).
- The Spirit of Glory (I Pet. 4:14).
- The Spirit of Love (II Tim. 1:17).
- The Finger of God (Luke 11:20).

V. What are some of the most common symbols that are applied to the Holy Spirit?

A. The Dove (Luke 3:22).

And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased."

1. The dove is symbolic of purity (Mt. 10:16).

"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves."

2. The dove is symbolic of gentleness (Gal. 5:22-23).
3. The dove is symbolic of constancy in love (Song 5:12).

B. Fire (Rev. 4:5; Is. 4:4)

And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

Revelation 4:5

When the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and purged the blood of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and by the spirit of burning... Isaiah 4:4

1. Fire purifies (Is. 6:7).
2. Fire tests (I Cor. 3:13-15).
3. Fire illuminates (Ps. 78:14; Eph. 1:17-18).

C. Oil (I John 2:20, 27)

But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him. I John 2:27

1. Oil is associated with anointing for service (Acts 10:38).
2. Oil is associated with healing (Ps. 23:5; Jam. 5:14).
3. Oil is associated with consecration and dedication (Gen. 28:18; Lev. 8:30).

D. Water (Is. 44:3)

For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, and floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, and My blessing on your offspring...

1. Water speaks of refreshing (John 4:13-14).

Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."

2. Water speaks of cleansing (Heb. 10:22).
3. Water speaks of life (John 7:38-39).

He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

F. Wind (John 3:6-8)

Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

1. Wind is mysterious in its work (I Cor. 2:14; John 3:8).
2. Wind is powerful in its action (Acts 2:2-3).
3. Wind or breath is necessary for life (John 3:6-8; Ezek. 37:7-10).

F. Wine (Acts 2:13-14; Eph. 5:18)

And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord... Ephesians 5:18-19

1. Wine produces unusual actions (Acts 2:13-14).
2. Wine cleanses and heals (Luke 10:34).
3. Wine induces singing (Eph. 4:18-19).
4. Wine helps to forget trouble (Pro. 31:6).
5. Wine induces visions (Acts 2:17-18).

G. Other symbols of the Holy Spirit include the following:

1. The Seal (Eph. 1:13).
2. The Earnest (Eph. 1:14).
3. The Rain (Acts 2:17-18).

VI. What is the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit?

A. The Holy Spirit had a part in relation to the universe.

1. He was at work in the creation of the heavens and the earth (Ps. 33:6; Job 33:4).

The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life.
Job 33:4

2. He was at work in preparing the earth for the creation of man (Gen. 1:1-2; Ps. 104:29-30).

B. The Holy Spirit was at work in relation to Christ Who patterns for us that which the Church as the Body of Christ is to experience.

Christ was:

- Born of the Spirit (Luke 1:35; John 3:5).
- Baptized with the Spirit (Mt. 3:16-17; Acts 1:4-5).
- Filled with the Spirit (Luke 4:1; Eph. 3:19).
- Led of the Spirit (Mt. 4:1; Rom. 8:14).
- Empowered by the Spirit (Luke 4:14; Acts 1:8).
- Anointed by the Spirit (Acts 10:38; I John 2:27).
- Ministering by the Spirit (Luke 4:18; I Pet. 1:11-12).
- Sealed by the Spirit (John 6:27; II Cor. 1:21-22).
- Raised from the dead by the Spirit (Rom. 8:2, 11-13).
- Giving commandments by the Spirit (Acts 1:2; 15:28-29).
- The Baptizer in the Holy Spirit (Mark. 1:8; Acts 2:33).

C. The Holy Spirit has an important work in the life of every believer.

The Holy Spirit:

- Convicts the unbeliever of sin (John 16:8-11).
- Indwells the spirit of the believer (Rom. 8:9-11).

But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

- Gives assurance of salvation (Rom. 8:16; Gal. 4:6).

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God...

Romans 8:16

- Empowers the believer to fulfill the commands of Christ (Acts 1:8).
- Opens the believers understanding to the things of God (I Cor. 2:12).
- Renews the believer (Tit. 3:5-7).

...not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

- Produces Christ-like fruit in the life of the believer (Gal. 5:22-23).

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

- Teaches the believer and leads him into truth (John 16:13).
- Strengthens the believer in the inner person (Eph. 3:14-17).

For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, ¹⁶ that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, ¹⁷ that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith...

- Inspires the believer to worship (Phil. 3:3).

For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh...

- Calls the believer to service (Acts 13:2-4).

As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

- Guides the believer in their ministry (Acts 8:29; 16:6-7).

Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. ⁷ After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them.

Acts 16:6-7

- Imparts spiritual gifts to the believer (I Cor. 12:7-11).
- Assists the believer in times of persecution (Mt. 10:19-20).

But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.

- Comforts and gives encouragement to the believer (John 15:26; Acts 9:31).

Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied. Acts 9:31

- Assists the believer in prayer (Rom. 8:26).

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

- Transforms the believer into the image of Christ (II Cor. 3:18).

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

- Quickens or enlivens the mortal body of the believer (Rom. 8:11).

But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

D. The Holy Spirit has an important role to play in relation to the Scriptures.

1. The Holy Spirit inspired those who wrote the Scripture (II Pet. 1:21-22).
2. The Holy Spirit is the interpreter of the Scriptures (I Cor.2:9-14; John 16:14-15).

VII. Why is it so important to know the Holy Spirit?

A. Because a lack of intimate knowledge of and relationship with the Holy Spirit can keep us out of much of the blessing of God (Acts 19:1-6).

And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” So they said to him, “We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.”

B. Because we are living in a day when a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit has been promised (Acts 2:17-21; Joel 2:28-32; Jam. 5:7-8).

‘And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, that I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams. And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; and they shall prophesy.

Acts 2:17-18

C. Because the Holy Spirit is the final person of the Godhead to witness and call us before the culmination of God’s plan (I John 5:6-13; Mt. 12:31-32; Rev. 22:17).

“Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men. ³² Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.

Matthew 12:31-32

And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

Revelation 22:17

This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. ⁷ For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. ⁸ And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.

⁹ If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son. ¹⁰ He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. ¹¹ And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. ¹² He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³ These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God. I John 5:6-13

VIII. What is the difference between being born of the Spirit, baptized in the Spirit and Filled with the Spirit?

A. The believer has three significant encounters with the Holy Spirit that all help the believer to achieve destiny.

1. Born of the Spirit (John 3:5-6)
2. Baptized with the Spirit (Luke 3:16; Acts 1:5)
3. Filled with the Spirit (Eph. 5:18-19)

And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord...

If we are to receive the full benefit of these experiences, we must understand the purpose and the distinction between each of them.

B. To Be Born of the Spirit

Being born of the Spirit is a ONE-TIME EXPERIENCE that is characterized as follows:

1. Necessary for entrance into the Kingdom of God (John 3:5).
2. Associated with the new birth (John 3:3).
3. Occurs when we repent and acknowledge the Lordship of Christ (Rom. 10:8-13).
4. The Holy Spirit is joined to our human spirit, we become a child of God and the temple of the Holy Spirit (I Cor. 3:16-17; 6:17; II Cor. 6:16).
5. The evidence that we have been born of the Spirit is the inner witness of the Spirit that we are the children of God (Rom. 8:16).

For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God... Romans 8:15-16

6. The outcome or fruit of this experience is the fruit of the Spirit.
7. Primary focus: **The Character of Christ**

C. To be Baptized with or in the Spirit

Being baptized in or with the Spirit is a ONE-TIME EXPERIENCE that is characterized by:

1. An experience subsequent to or even simultaneous to salvation (Acts 8:12-17).
2. An endowment with power from on High to fulfill the commission of God in our lives (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8).
3. An experience that Christ wants every believer to experience (John 7:37-39; Acts 2:38).
4. An anointing upon the believer (Luke 24:49; Acts 10:44).
5. The evidence of this experience is speaking with other tongues (Acts 10:44-46).

While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.

6. The outcome or fruit of this experience is a greater release of and sensitivity to the gifts of the Spirit.
7. Primary focus: **The Ability or Power of Christ**

D. To be Filled with the Spirit

Being filled with the Spirit is AN ONGOING EXPERIENCE that is characterized by:

1. Often confused with the baptism of the Spirit.

2. Available to anyone who is in covenant relationship with God in both the Old and New Testaments (Ex. 38:3; Luke 1:15, 41).
3. The Spirit fills the heart and mind of the believer so that every thought, determination and action is under the pervading influence and direction of the Holy Spirit. (When something is filled it is completely taken up in, saturated by and permeated with.)
4. It is to be a continual and daily experience of the believer (Eph. 5:18-19).
5. The evidence of the filling of the Holy Spirit is boldness, etc. (Acts 4:31).

And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

6. The fruit is peace and joy in the Holy Ghost (Rom. 14:17; Acts 6:15; 7:55).
7. Primary focus: Daily Endurance

Note: Being filled with the Spirit may occur simultaneously with the other two experiences (Acts 2:1-4).

E. The Experience of Jesus

1. Born of the Spirit (Mt. 1:20)
2. Baptized in the Spirit (Mt. 3:16)
3. Filled with or full of the Spirit (Luke 4:1)

F. The Experience of the Apostles

1. Born of the Spirit (John 20:22)
2. Baptized in the Spirit (Acts 1:5; 2:4)
3. Filled with the Spirit (Acts 4:23-31)

G. Paul’s Command to be Filled—Ephesians 5:18-19

1. It is a command, imperative, “Be filled!”
2. It is to be continual, “Keep on being filled!”
3. It parallels the oil in relation to the lampstand in the Tabernacle of Moses.
 - a. It experienced an initial filling of the lamps.
 - b. It experienced a daily filling or refueling so that the oil would burn and not the wick.

H. The Need for Continual Filling

Why we need to believe for this?

1. The routines of life can drain us of spiritual vitality and energy.

2. The attacks of the enemy can deplete us (Jesus, tempted of the devil).
3. The special challenges that each day holds can blind-side us.
4. The opposition from unbelievers can discourage us (Acts 4:23ff.)

I. The Path to Continual Filling

1. We must recognize that we have a need (Mt. 5:3; Acts 4:29).
2. We must take the initiative (Eph. 5:18-19).
3. We must hunger and thirst (Mt. 5:6).
4. We must ask (Luke 4:13).
5. We must do this often/daily (Eph. 5:18-19).

Note: For further, detailed teaching on the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, the Fruit of the Spirit, Offenses against the Holy Spirit and the Gifts of the Spirit see the individual course on the Holy Spirit.